CAG's Remarks on Southern AIR Command

*251. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Southern Air Command in fully operational;

(b) if not, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the CAG's remarks in regard to lack of infrastructure and sanctioned force deployment; and

(d) the action taken to remove the deficiencies pointed out?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Southern Air Command (SAC) has not been developed fully as per Government approval given in 1984. However, the SAC is capable of conducting full range of air operations, if required, by re-location of resources from other Commands.

(b) The operational need for deployment of Air Force assets in other important sector has put development of SAC in a deferred state of priority. It is being developed in stages.

(c) and (d) Necessary infrastructure will be developed after acquisition of land which is in progress.

Counter-Guarantee Agreement with Private Sector Firms

† *252. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government and the State Governments have signed an agreement with private sector power producing firms for purchase of power and whether the Central Government have also signed a counter-guarantee agreement with one of these private firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.